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LETTER DATED 22 MARCH 1993 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the consideration by the Security Council of a draft resolution on the proposed enforcement by Member States of the interdiction on military flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/25440).

In this connection, I received, during the weekend, a cable from the Force Commander of UNPROFOR, Lt-Gen. Lars-Eric Wahlgren, expressing his grave concern about the proposed resolution. In brief, his view is that the activity that has so far occurred from the air has had no significant impact on the military situation. His apprehension is that the proposed enforcement action will have negative consequences for the viability of UNPROFOR within its existing mandate. In particular, he is concerned that the delivery of humanitarian aid, the protection of which constitutes the predominant part of UNPROFOR's work in Bosnia and Herzegovina, would be seriously jeopardized. The Force Commander is also deeply worried about the safety and security of the most vulnerable elements of UNPROFOR, viz., military observers and civilian personnel in locations in the region where they would become vulnerable, notably, the air fields.

I feel it my duty to bring the concerns of the Force Commander to your immediate attention. Members of the Council would recall that Gen. Wahlgren's predecessor, Gen. Nambiar, had expressed similar apprehensions.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

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